

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Presently amended) An armrest assembly comprising:  
  
cutout block means having a cutout for receiving therein a [rail] supporting surface and [rail] securing means to facilitate attaching said cutout block means to said [rail] supporting surface;  
  
said cutout block means further having a passageway for receiving therein an elongated [raiser] riser and lever [raiser] means for raising, lowering and securing said riser at a desired height relative to said [rail] supporting surface;  
  
housing means having inner [split] ball means and outer [split] ball means mounted therein for facilitating relative tilting, turning and rotating movement between said inner [split] ball means and said outer [split] ball means, wherein the outer ball includes a control knob for securing said armrest in any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface; and  
  
armrest means attached to said housing means [to facilitate universal movement of said armrest means relative to said outer split ball means; and] for receiving an arm of an individual;  
  
wherein said riser is fixed at its distal end within said inner [split] ball to help facilitate relative tilting, turning and rotating movement of said armrest means relative to said [rail] supporting surface, and wherein said riser travels along a rectilinear path to raise and lower

said armrest to further facilitate placing the arm of the individual in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface.

2. (Previously presented) The armrest assembly according to claim 1, wherein said universal movement includes rotating said armrest means X degrees about said rail.

3. (Previously presented) The armrest assembly according to claim 2, wherein X degrees is over a range from 0 degrees to 360 degrees.

4. (Presently amended) The armrest assembly according to claim 3, wherein [in] said universal movement further includes tilting said armrest means Y degrees about said outer [split] ball means.

5. (Previously presented) The armrest assembly according to claim 4, wherein Y degrees is between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

6. (Presently amended) The armrest assembly according to claim 5, wherein said universal movement [still] further includes turning said armrest means Z [degree] degrees about said outer [split] ball means.

7. (Original) The armrest assembly according to claim 6, wherein said Z degrees is between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

8. (Previously presented) The armrest assembly according to claim 1, wherein said universal movement includes tilting, rotating and turning said armrest means in any one of three different axis in a range between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

9. (Presently amended) A phlebotomy armrest to help facilitate drawing blood from the arm of a patient, comprising:

an armrest supported from below by a universal adjustment arrangement to place the arm of the patient in any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to a supporting surface;

said universal adjustment arrangement including a housing removably mounted to said armrest;

said housing having disposed therein an outer [split] ball and an inner [split] ball mounted for universal movement relative to one another;

a riser, wherein said inner [split] ball [having] has a first securing arrangement for securing [a] the riser to said inner [split] ball, wherein said first securing arrangement is mounted on a distal end portion of the riser, and wherein the riser travels along a rectilinear path to raise and lower the armrest to facilitate placing the arm of the patient in said plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface ; and

said outer [split] ball having [another] a second securing arrangement for securing said outer [split] ball in a fixed position relative to said inner [split] ball, and wherein said outer ball includes a control knob for securing said armrest in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Presently amended) The phlebotomy armrest according to claim [11] 9, wherein said riser is secured to a single load control lever that facilitates raising and lowering said riser and locking said [raiser] riser in position so that said armrest is placed in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to [a] the supporting surface.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Amended) An armrest assembly comprising:

a [block like] base unit having a cutout region for receiving therein [an arm rail] a supporting surface;

a clamping arrangement coupled to said cutout region for helping to secure said base unit to said [arm rail] supporting surface;

a housing unit having a plurality of [split] balls mounted therein that facilitates rotational movement, turning movement, and tilting movement, wherein one of said plurality of balls includes a control knob for securing said armrest in any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface;

an armrest platform supported from below by said housing unit; and

a straight riser slidably mounted within said base unit and having its distal end mounted within an individual one of said plurality of [split] balls to facilitate rotational, turning,

and tilting movement of said armrest platform relative to said [arm rail] supporting surface, and wherein the riser travels along a rectilinear path to raise and lower the armrest to further facilitate placing the arm of the patient in said plurality of desired position planes relative to the supporting surface.

17. (Presently amended) The armrest assembly according to claim 16, wherein said plurality of [split] balls includes a stationary ball, a moveable ball [and a locking arrangement that] wherein the control knob secures said moveable ball in a fixed stationary position relative to said stationary ball.

18. (Presently amended) A portable armrest, comprising:  
a housing [having a plurality of mounting surfaces and] having mounted therein a plurality of lockable [split] balls for providing universal movement, said plurality of lockable [split] balls including a stationary [split] ball, a moveable [split] ball and a locking arrangement that secures said moveable ball in a fixed stationary position relative to said stationary ball; [and]  
an armrest platform mounted to said [plurality of mounting surfaces] housing to facilitate lockable universal movement of said armrest relative to a stationary surface; and  
a riser arrangement adapted to be secured between the stationary surface and said stationary ball, said riser arrangement comprising a riser that travels in a rectilinear path to raise and lower the armrest to a desired distance from the stationary surface.

19. (Presently amended) The portable armrest according to claim 18 [further comprising:

a clamping riser arrangement adapted to be secured between the stationary surface and said stationary split ball for supporting said armrest from the stationary surface and for facilitating raising and lowering of said armrest to a desired distance from the stationary surface], wherein said armrest includes at least one slidably adjustable extension.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of preparing a patient of a phlebotomy procedure, comprising the steps of:

providing a housing having a plurality of mounting surfaces and having mounted therein a plurality of lockable split balls for providing universal movement, said plurality of lockable split balls including a stationary split ball, a moveable split ball and a locking arrangement that secures said moveable ball in a fixed stationary position relative to said stationary ball;

wherein said plurality of mounting surfaces have mounted thereto an armrest platform to facilitate lockable universal movement of the armrest platform relative to a stationary surface; and

turning said armrest to a desired position, wherein said desired position is between about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said stationary surface;

rotating said armrest to another desired position, wherein said another desired position is between about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said stationary surface; and

tilting said armrest to yet another desired position, wherein said another desired position is between about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said stationary surface.